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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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OUNTRY	China/Poland		REPORT		
UBJECT	Appraisal of China and Its Leaders	Communist	DATE DISTR.	/3 September	1957 25X
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C-O-N-F-I-D-E-N-T-I-A-L 25X1 Poland COUNTRY: 6 Aug 57 DATE: Appraisal of Communist China 25X1 NO. OF PAGES: 3 SUBJECT: and its Leaders 25X1 Chinese Attitudes toward Poland 3. MAO Tse-tung's 25X1 attitude toward Poland as that of an elder brother who would not allow any harm to befall a younger member of the family. MAO demonstrated 25X1 an intimate knowledge of the latest developments in Warsaw. He particularly asked about Gomulka's health and the attitude of the Party rank-and-file toward the new Party secretary. 25X1

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4.	MAO in 1955 had expressed what appeared to be sincere feelings of respect and concern not only for the Polish state, but also for the Polish people. In emphasizing how the Poles had been oppressed and exploited by occupying powers for many years, he even gave specific examples which demonstrated intimate knowledge of historical facts known only to specialists in Polish history.	25X1
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An	Appraisal of Peiping Leaders	4
5.	MAO Tse-tung	•
	power stemmed from an entirely different source than that of the Soviet leaders. MAO seemed to be regarded by his countrymen as their true spiritual and intellectual leader who was respected for his	25X1
	wisdom and knowledge. the wave of condemnation of Stalin and the "cult of the personality" which followed the 20th Soviet Party Congress in 1956 had no parallel in China simply because the masses really felt that MAO was above reproach.	25X1
6.		25 X 1
	personal behaviour, there was no comparison between "gentlemanly" MAO and his "bocrish" Soviet counterparts. MAO appeared exceptionally well-informed on a wide variety of subjects and, even though modest at all times, he demonstrated no sign of inferiority or subservience to Soviet officials	
	Chinese Communist leader expressed friendship toward the USSR, but no effusive praise or homage paid to Soviet achievements.	25X1
7.		25X1
′•	MAO left the handling of domestic, as well as foreign affairs, to CHOU En-lai. MAO gave the impression of wishing to retain and expand his position as Asian Marxist theoretician and spiritual leader. In direct contrast to MAO, CHOU impressed	25 X 1
	as a politician, diplomat and the real economic head of the Communist Government. His intelligence, combined with extensive and excellent training received in the Soviet Union, made him a competent administrator.	25X1
	he had no intention of becoming a Moscow puppet.	25 X 1
App	raisal of Chinese Communist Policies	
8.	Communist China, certainly	
	could not be considered a Soviet satellite or even a partner, in the sense of a co-equal. The Chinese Communists made it very plain	25 X 1
	that they regarded their civilization and culture as superior to that of the USSR. Their Russian "brother" was a friendly neighbor in whose territory historical developments had permitted advanced industrialization and the creation of conditions for the "Construction of Socialism" but nothing more. Pronouncements from Moscow which spoke of a "new Communist culture" or "improvement of the backward East" were met with polite smiles by Chinese officials.	25X1

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9•	According to development taking place in various sections of China during recent years, one should not speak of industrial backwardness in China. In spite of the primitive methods still employed in construction, a number of the factories and industrial enterprises surpassed in quality those being built at the present time in the Soviet Union.	25X1
	however, at this early stage of its industrial expansion, China could not stand alone. finding employment for the tremendous mass of Chinese cheap labor posed a great problem. The government was using this cheap labor force for the construction of dams and other large projects. The state had also taken over the production and distribution of the basic food commodity, rice, and of the padded cotton clothes worn by the bulk of the population, thus simplifying maintenance of this cheap labor force. By handing out rice for practically nothing, the Communists had eliminated the scourge of hunger which haunted the nation for generations. This was contributing to the creation of a new Chinese social environment in which the average person could not accumulate great wealth, but on the other hand, was no longer faced with starvation. This ability to feed the masses and to use them for economically sound projects was having far-reaching	25X1 25X1
	beneficial effects upon the nation's economy with credit for improvement bestowed upon MAO. as a result of these developments in China during the past five years, the government of MAO was preferred to that of Chiang Kai-shek.	25X1
10.	The elastic application of Marxist principles in China had greatly contributed to the popularity of the Communist regime. The utilization of "capitalists" for the "building of Socialism" had won many adherents to Communism from among the ranks of the educated and the skilled technicians. the so-called "private-national" enterprises in China by far surpassed in efficiency their Soviet state-controlled counterparts.	25X1 25X1 25X1
11.	Finally, Mao was directly credited with reducing graft, eliminating inter- necine strife and doing away with the ravages of bandits. Despite the fact that they complained about onerous Communist regulations, the Chinese citizens appeared to be living better than ever before.	25 X 1
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